or get news from the outside world. I was simply in a stupor of fatigue.

My solitude was broken by one of the guards, a young soldier repatriated from the Far East. He showed me touching attention. In the morning, instead of handing hot water for tea through the window in the cell door, he would open the door quietly, put the can on the table, cover it with my fur hat, and leave the cell on tiptoe so as not to wake me. When he was on the night shift on my corridor, he would open the window of my cell and talk in a whisper. Usually he told me about his home and service in the army in Manchuria. I felt that he needed someone to whom to tell his story. We both had an urge to think of the past.

Two weeks after the arrest, during the usual half-hour solitary walking in one of the courtyards of the prison, I recognized a member of our group of meeting speakers at a ground-floor window. He told me the news: Moscow is in revolt. The troops are refusing to fire. The city is in the hands of the workers.

I asked my guard about these events. He had heard nothing but promised to bring me a "good" newspaper. Next day he handed me one. Though its title had been torn off, I recognized it as a Menshevist newspaper. From it I learned that the revolt of the workers in Moscow had been drowned in blood.

REVOLT IN MOSCOW

Later I learned many details of the Moscow "armed revolt" from people who had taken part in it, some as political leaders, others as members of workers' commandos, defending the barricades.

The tocsin rang from St. Petersburg, where the workers replied to the arrest of their Soviet by a general strike. The newly elected Soviet proclaimed the walkout as the signal for a general revolt of all freedom-loving citizens. A strike in St. Petersburg and Moscow and on all Russian railroads was set for December 7. But the St. Petersburg workers, emotionally tired and economically exhausted by two preceding walkouts, did not respond. In addition, the conference of railroad workers failed in its attempt to stop rail traffic. The trains continued to run, with soldiers posted on each locomotive and in each passenger car. Attempts at sabotage were frustrated by strong patrols guarding the tracks. Actually, the December strike was limited to Moscow, and the government concentrated all its forces on crushing it.

From the first day, the strike in Moscow was marked by attacks of